THE Lions' Pride
OF SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY

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Wireless issues appear to be a thing of the past

BY MICHAEL DOWDAL
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

In the beginning of the year, wireless internet was hard to come by unless people were in a classroom or sitting in the middle of campus. Since returning from break, however, this seems to have been resolved.

Several students are reporting that they are now receiving wireless in their buildings. Henderson, Roderick, and Benoit halls, particularly, are receiving wireless internet where they once did not.

At the beginning of the year, University Technology Services (UTS) was swamped with their usual requests: laptops. However, an inordinate amount of students went to the building, complaining of not getting internet reception. These internet-deprived collegiates were given an ethernet cable and sent on their way. This was the most common way to get internet while in one's dorm, because wireless would not work inside the rooms. If it did happen to work, the wireless was very unreliable and volatile, often disconnecting or losing reception.

"I couldn't stand it. I mean, I had no mobility. I was tripping on a cable every five seconds. I feel set free now," said Jason James.

"For me, the ethernet jack in my room broke, so my roommate discovered that the wireless worked fine, which was pretty fortunate," said a relieved resident of Henderson, Alex Boyce.

Howard Berg, the network manager of Saint Leo, offered some insight into the realities of the wireless situation and what work was being done to our connections:

"All of the wireless connections are routed through the Impulse Safe Connect appliance. The reason is to comply with a US Federal requirement called CALEA; Saint Leo must know who is on their networks that access the Internet."

This means that Impulse is not designed to monitor and police student activity, like an eerie "Big Brother" scenario of Orwellian proportions, but it is a way to make sure that the internet works fine for all students.

There are plans in store to improve the bandwidth.

"Saint Leo is currently purchasing 10 Mb dedicated to wireless," said Berg.

A downside to the wireless, however, is a problem that often occurs. Wireless connections are generally slower and cannot handle as much bandwidth when compared with connections made by the ethernet cables. Meaning, that, if lots of people are doing something that requires a constant connection, like watching *Youtube* videos, there will be a noticeable slow down in connection and loading time, because it puts a strain on the internet connection.

Sophomore George Smith enjoys wireless internet inside his dorm room. Photograph by Kristin Brittain

Berg refutes this, however, with statistics stating that, "Typically there are 500 to 600 authenticated users at any one time and out of them usually no more than 10 are downloading extremely large files at the same time."

Another problem is the occasional disconnect, though to be fair, these are far more infrequent than they once were.

The sudden working of the wireless caught some students by surprise.

"I was just working one day, and I accidentally pulled out my internet cable. To my amazement, the internet connected to the wireless worked just fine. Pretty awesome, I must say," said Jen Newsome.

Still, there are detractors from this new wireless revolution, people who feel wireless is a privilege that should be respected.

"The more people that use

WIRELESS CON'T PAGE 3

Invisible Children movement reaches campus this April

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

The Invisible Children's National Tour will be rolling onto campus in less than two weeks on Thursday, April 3.

The sophomore class is responsible for the event, led by President Steven Cronis, and Vice President Daniel Izquierdo. They've been planning since early last fall.

"It's going to be a big event," Cronis said. "We're expecting a large turnout and we're excited for it."

The Invisible Children movement began in 2003 when three young Americans set out on a journey for a story in Africa. Jason Russell, Laren Poole, and Bobby Bailey found that story in northern Uganda, when they discovered children as young as five years old were being abducted and forced to become soldiers to fight against their own people. To avoid this horror, many children commuted at night and piled into safe houses where they couldn't be captured.

With hours of documentation and their hearts and heads filled with compassion and determination, this trio set out to make one of the most inspiring and influential documentaries of all time.

The movement has grown significantly within the last five years and continues to do so. In 2006, the organization hosted a Global Night Commute, where more than 80,000 people walked to 126 city centers across the nation and slept in the streets to stand against ending commuting in northern Uganda. They have also been touring the country since 2005 and have recently kicked off their fourth full-fledged tour on February 20.

Although there are still some details unknown about the event, the sophomore class is working hard at planning this event and teaming up with other organizations including Sigma Alpha Epsilon, Tri-Sigma, AZT, and the Arts Ensemble.

"We're hoping that more organizations will team up with us to make this event as big as possible," Cronis said.

Prior to the tour's arrival, the sophomore class will be hosting three screenings of the movie Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of that week. Monday and Tuesday showings will be held in Crawford room 2, and Wednesday's showing will be held in Selby Auditorium. All screenings will begin at 7p.m.

"By having three showings, we're really giving students a chance to come out and get a sense of what it's all about. This way, they'll be informed and excited on the day of the event," Cronis commented.

During the main event, which is said to be held in the Student Community Center Boardroom, the roadies will be showing a different movie about the growing movement throughout nation, as well as the

INVISIBLE CON'T PAGE 3

Opinions

Nature saves slackers from sobriety....again

He Said

BY JOSHUA M. SMITH
Lions' Pride Online Editor

Hey, have you heard? There's a new drug out there: it's called Salvia divinorum. In case your taxonomy and Latin skills are a bit lacking, it's got other names too: "Sage of the Seers," "Sally-D," "Magic Mint," and "Diviner's Sage." What's important though is (yay!) it's legal. For now.

Some are calling it "the new marijuana." Others are comparing it to LSD. It's being sold on the internet, and a growing number of teens and college-aged people are using it. Proponents of the drug are already fighting efforts to control its sale and consumption.

We've heard it all before...Mother Earth has sprung forth yet another herbal gift from the gods given to us from on high to expand our consciousness and enhance our parties. Once again, there are "no side effects," and the substance is "safe" because it's "natural."

And, once again, we're hearing the tired old comparisons to alcohol, "the really dangerous drug" that's still legal, as if one bad thing justifies another.

Salvia divinorum comes from the Mazatec Indians of Mexico. It has been used by the indigenous culture as a hallucinogenic drug for religious visionary rituals and healing.

That must be why teens and college-aged people are using it, since we're all so into religion and mysticism. For those of you reading this with an altered state of mind, that last sentence was sarcasm. For the life of me, I can't figure out why campus drug users would be interested in a drug that provides religious experiences—the users I know are all self-described atheists and agnostics. But, we all know that spiritualism isn't the reason students seek out mind and mood-altering chemicals.

Seriously, kids, can't we just say no?

I won't be completely sold on the need to outlaw this drug until more is known about the dangers. However, I can't for the life of me see why high school and college-aged people need more intoxicants. Seriously, where do people find the time to put this crap into their bodies? Don't they have lives?

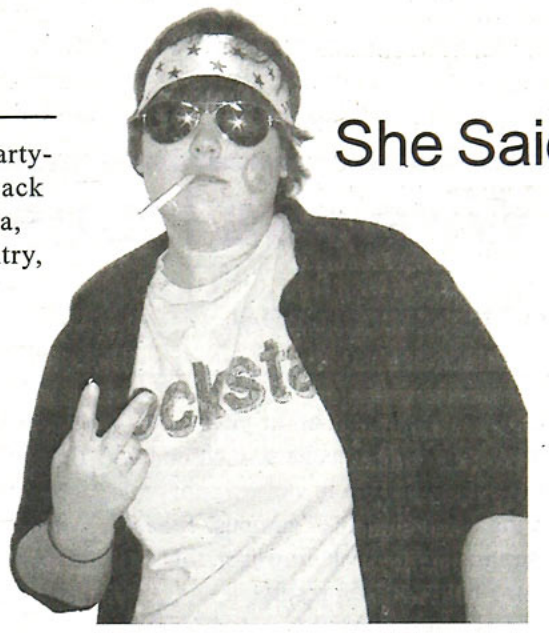
Maybe that's too harsh. Maybe I need to be more understanding. Maybe I need to be open to the idea that drugs are a necessary and useful part of a successful student's life.

Maybe, maybe not.

Maybe I'm just being an old fogy, just a prude who doesn't want anyone to have fun. Or, maybe I'm just worried about all of those students out there who don't respect themselves enough to stop shoving intoxicants down their throats, up their noses, and into their veins. Maybe I'm just sick of seeing good people fall into bad habits, depression, addiction, and idleness—especially at so young an age.

For now, Salvia divinorum is legal in 47 states. The Florida legislature is currently trying to pass a bill that would make it illegal. No matter what happens, students owe it to themselves to stop and think about what they are putting into their bodies and why. Drugs, legal or illegal, can't fill the void in a wounded heart.

Chill out America, it's only a plant!



She Said

BY KATIE GAISER
Lions' Pride Layout Editor

Hello my fellow liberals, party-goers, and hippies alike! I'm back and here to tell you that Florida, along with the rest of the country, is trying to ban an up and coming popular, legal substance known as Salvia Divinorum (Salvia for short).

While some of you may be aware of this substance, those less informed may care to know that Salvia is a small leafy green plant that produces psychedelic effects in the body when it is either chewed or smoked. Since its re-discovery by a team of botanists in the 1990's, this plant has become more and more popular among consumers and can be purchased on dozens of websites, as well as in most smoke shops across the country.

Now, after years of its legality and no available scientific information on how it does the body harm, Florida legislatures are trying to ban the plant and inflict a fairly excessive felony charge for possession of the substance, with a chance of up to five years in prison. The news of this event has boggled my mind, especially because I'm willing to bet these delegates haven't looked at the whole side of the story. But then again, I'm sure these people are far too busy trying to get their way and ban the plant before they really understand what it's about.

So, let me tell you what it's about. This plant was never meant to be a harmful substance. In fact, it was first used as early as the 1930's in areas of Mexico by Mazatec shamans during spiritual healing sessions. They also used the plant as a divinatory aid, as well as to treat ailments including diarrhea, headaches, anemia, and rheumatism. Today, people use the plant for various purposes including being smoked for relaxation and meditation, burned as incense, or even planted as decoration.

I suppose what scares these law makers is the fact that this plant can induce some fairly heavy psychedelic reactions. The stronger the dose, the more intense these reactions can be. The effects can trigger uncontrollable laugher, past memories, sensations of motion, as well as overlapping realities. However, these effects are known to last as short as five minutes to as long as 20-30 minutes depending on the strength. However, people can drink four or five beers and take five or six shots of whiskey and still wake up drunk the next morning. Yet, there's still no ban on alcohol, and there never will be.

Furthermore, the plant is treated like all tobacco products, and only sold to those who are 18 and older. In this country, when people turn 18 they become legal adults and are responsible for their own well-being. Those who choose to use the plant, for whatever purpose, can purchase it legally. Those who choose not to use the plant, don't. Either way, the law states they are entitled to their choice. Since it is also smoked like most tobacco products, it can cause damage to the lungs. However, it should be the consumers' choice whether or not they want to take that risk.

I'm not encouraging anyone to use this plant, or even saying that it's the greatest thing since sliced bread. My mission is merely to vouch for the safe and legal right to use one of nature's gifts to humanity. Let's focus on issues more threatening to our country, perhaps the war or increasing fuel prices. But hey, it's just a suggestion. So get your fix now guys and dolls, because pretty soon, Salvia might just make you a criminal.

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Corrections:

In the March 14 issue of *The Lions' Pride*, Cecelyn Dennis was the reporter of the article, "Saint Leo University speaker series presents: Jennifer Rothschild. "The Friend-ship of Adversity." Chelsea Grant was listed as the reporter.

Write here

The Lions' Pride newsroom is located in the Student Activities Center, office 116. Our phone number is (352) 588-8195. Send letters to the editor to The Lions' Pride: 33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574 or email us at lions.pride@saintleo.edu. Letters to the editor must be submitted with student's name, year, and major. Faculty and staff members must include rank and department. Please include a phone number (not a publication) so we can verify authorship. All letters are subject to editing. *The Lions' Pride* reserves the right not to publish any letter or column.

WIRELESS FROM CON'T PAGE 1

wireless, the less it's going to work effectively. These people should use their ethernet while in the dorms that way I can use my internet correctly while in the classroom or the LRC," said Budd Clayborne.

According to Berg, peer-to-peer file sharing, contrary to popular conception, "does not affect overall user experience." However, he did say that the more peer-to-peer connections and downloads that are running, and eating up bandwidth, the slower the connection will be.

"The network can tolerate a small number of simultaneous peer-to-peer users, but the individual user will see the effect more dramatically with each increase of bandwidth demand," said Berg.

Aside from the 10 MB that Saint Leo has dedicated itself to purchasing for the wireless system, it has also devised a system to assess the need for bandwidth, on a dynamic system.

"Bandwidth management is driven by business needs analysis. An analysis will probably be initiated before the end of the semester," said Berg, before adding, "Range of connection is a separate technical problem that is continuously being reviewed by University Technical Services."

For those who still use ethernet regularly in their dorms, it's good to know there is an alternative in case the would-be tragedy of damaged cables befalls some students. For others who would prefer to be comfortable instead of being chained to an ethernet cable, there is now hope. And for those who merely appreciate the glory of a wireless connection rather than a local area network, there is now a way to have both.

INVISIBLE FROM PAGE 1

progress made in northern Uganda. These roadies are people who have volunteered their time for the organization to travel across the nation and visit schools and businesses to raise awareness for the cause. The group will also be selling ribbons, buttons, and other merchandise to help raise money for the cause. The event will begin at 7p.m.

Sophomore Cherokee King is looking forward to the event.

"I think it's wonderful that they are coming. It gives people who might not know about the child soldiers in Africa a chance to learn about them and possible try and help them," King said.

For more information on this event or any questions regarding this organization, contact Steven Cronis or Daniel Izquierdo, or visit the Invisible Children website at *www.invisiblechildren.com.*

The battle over Salvia's legality begins

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

Recent interest in the plant Salvia divinorum is making its popularity go up and taunting law makers to take action.

For those who don't know, Salvia, also known as "the diviner's sage," is a hallucinogen that can be smoked, chewed, or turned into a liquid form to make the users trip and achieve an out of body experience, sense of traveling through time, or merging with inanimate objects.

"Given the right dose, individual, set and setting, it produces a unique state of 'divine inebriation,' which has been traditionally used by Mazatec healers. Salvia divinorum is both similar to, and different from, other drugs that can affect the brain and behavior," said the Salvia divinorum Research and Information Center.

Salvia is not a recreational drug. It is a plant that can be grown anywhere, but is indigenous to Mexico and South America. A member of the sage family, Salvia, can grow taller than a yard, has large green leaves, and hollow square stems that occasionally bloom white and purple flowers. Salvinorin A, is the primary, naturally occurring, psychoactive ingredient in Salvia that creates the hallucinogenic effects. It is the only naturally occurring substance known to induce a visionary state such that Salvia does.

The effects of Salvia reach their peak during the first 15-20 minutes after ingestion, and generally have a smaller effect on the body for up to an hour. This is unlike other psychedelics like LSD or PCP that have a lasting efect on the user. Profoundly altered states, out of body experiences, uncontrollable laughter, and sweating are a few of the wide range effects that are reported.

"It is best used by those wishing to explore deep meditative states, spiritual realms, mysticism, the nature of consciousness and reality, or the possibilities of shamanistic healing. It produces a short-lived inebriation," said the Salvia divinorum Research and Information Center.

Salvia's use was first recorded in print during the 1930's by the Mazatec Indians and is still being used by them today. The Mazatecs used the plant primarily for healing. Shamans took the drug to facilitate visions for curing or divination, and also low doses where given to treat ailments such as headaches, rheumatism, diarrhea, and anemia.

Today, the drug is legal in most states (Eight states have put restrictions on the drug.) and is being marketed, packaged, and sold in varying strengths all over the internet and in local head shops across the nation. The drug is inexpensive, and an ounce of Salvia can be purchased over the internet for around $30. So far, no deaths have been accounted to the use of Salvia, but it was listed as a contributing factor two years ago in a teenage boy's suicide.

Since salvia is cheap and easy to get a hold of, lawmakers are targeting the drug and comparing it to other illegals, such as marijuana, and LSD. Sixteen states, including Florida, are currently looking into placing a ban on the drug.

The recent bill to ban Salvia, the psychedelic substance, was introduced on Tuesday, March 11, by Florida Representative Mary Brandenburg. It is being studied by state Senator Evelyn Lynn and the Committee on Criminal Justice of Florida. This bill, if passed, will make the drug illegal, and possession of salvia will be a felony charge punishable up to five years in prison.

"You don't make everybody happy when you outlaw drugs. You save one child and it's worth it," said Mike Strain, former legislator.

Views on the bill so far have been mixed. Some believe the upheaval over salvia have been overblown, while others believe they are saving lives.

"I think the move to criminalize is a misguided response to a very minimal problem [...] It's a minor problem in the world of psychedelics," said Rick Doblin, of the nonprofit research group, Multidisciplinary Association for Psychedelic Studies, in an Associated Press article.

Meanwhile, on the opposite end of the spectrum, according to the Associated Press, the first legislator who helped the first state, Louisiana, to outlaw salvia said, "You don't make everybody happy when you outlaw drugs. You save one child and it's worth it," said Mike Strain, former legislator.

It is hard for authorities to pinpoint the popularity of salvia, and opinions on the drug are still mixed, with the verdict of criminality still out.

Housing Selection Process 2008

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The housing selection process for the 2008-2009 academic year is forthcoming with early bird and general housing forms due throughout the month of March.

At Saint Leo University, the housing selection process is based on what the school calls the "lottery" system. In the lottery system, each student is assigned a lottery number based on his or her completed credit hours. A freshman has 0-29 credits, a sophomore 30-59, a junior 60-89, and a senior 90 and higher. The name of every student is entered into the residence life computer system, which then creates a spreadsheet with a lotto number assigned to each student. The student's lotto number determines when the room can be chosen relative to other students. For example, a student with lottery number 300 may select a room after students with lottery numbers 1-299 have chosen their rooms.

For students who already have a preferred roommate or roommates, the process is the same except it takes into account all of the numbers of each student in the desired room. To figure this number out, add all the numbers of each roommate together and divide by the number of roommates. The number derived will be used for a selecting a room.

The early bird housing is the process that allows students with a Saint Leo University account balance below $500 on March 7 to register for housing first. If a student is awaiting the arrival of financial aid or is enrolled in the tuition pay plan and is current on their payments, they are still eligible for the early bird housing selection process. They must have a representative from the Office of Student Financial Services sign off on a Housing Financial Waiver sheet. Early bird housing forms were available on February 25th in the Office of Residence Life and were to be turned in by March 14th at 5 p.m. If the student's account balance is above $500, the applications will be rejected. Those who qualify will choose rooms on March 25 and 26.

General housing selection is for students who did not qualify for early bird housing or turned in a late early bird application. A balance may be owed, but if the balance is not paid by July 1, 2008 the room may be revoked.

For those who commute as a registered student and wish to live on campus next year, Residence Life should be contacted as soon as possible. From there, Residence Life will assign the student a "leftover" lottery number according to their class rank.

Incoming and transfer students will be placed in housing after all current students have been assigned a room. This usually doesn't take place until after summer orientation to give those students time to see the different dorms and possibly meet and make friends and roommates at orientation.

Professors for a day, amazing for a lifetime

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

On Tuesday, March 18, Amazonia Expeditions founder Dr. Paul Beaver and his wife, Dolores Beaver, visited Saint Leo as professors for a day.

"This is a fantastic opportunity for students," said IHT professor Dr. Stan McGahey. "Anyone interested in ecotourism, adventure traveling, or even travel writing can learn from these two."

Dr. Beaver's history is an interesting one. After a barrage of personal challenges, Dr. Beaver accepted a temporary position in the Amazon. Inspired by the native Peruvians struggling with their day-to-day lives, Dr. Beaver vowed to work in the Amazon for the rest of his life to give back to the people.

Now, Dr. Beaver has his Ph. D in evolutionary biology, not business or management. So, it's a wonder how he went from biologist to multi-million dollar owner of Amazonia Expeditions.

"It's all about taking risks," said Dr. Beaver. "I had to ask myself, 'could you live with losing everything?' My answer was yes, yes I could."

Twenty-eight years ago in 1981, Dr. Beaver invested all he had in tents and a couple of machetes. After some initial grunt work and a lot of licenses, he founded Amazonia Expeditions, the first and only adventure camping company in the western Amazon. Dr. Beaver relates his successful attempt to start and grow a business to biology.

"I was like an invasive species invading a new ecosystem. But, I didn't have to worry about going in and having to deal with predators; I had no competition," he said. "I was offering a sort of business no one else was. So, I had the luxury of making a lot of mistakes and a lot of error without it driving me into extinction—or bankruptcy."

Dr. Beaver discussed the importance of taking risks. The Amazon is a dangerous place to be without knowing its layout almost naturally. So, not only did Dr. Beaver have to worry about losing everything he had, but he also had to worry about the ecosystem he was "invading" and the lives of the people he took with him through the Amazon. Nevertheless, with a lot of careful work and dedication, Amazonia Expeditions survived.

Twelve years later, Dr. Beaver hired his future wife Dolores "Dolly" Arevalo Shapiama, a native of the Amazon region. Dolly was having a hard time getting hired because she was a woman.

Photograph by Peter Marian
Paul and Dolly Beaver (center) mingle with the presentation attendees.

Dolly and Paul Beaver with a participant.
Photograph by Peter Marian

"They would tell me they had positions in custodial work or house keeping. There is nothing wrong with these jobs," Dolly said. "But, that wasn't what I went to school for."

She got her position with Amazonia Expeditions as a female tour guide. Dolly also served as the "go-to" person for many females taking the tour, and even the native women.

"Sometimes, they just needed someone to talk to," Dolly said. "And I always wanted to work with people, so it works out."

Dolly is also the founder and executive director of Angels of the Amazon. This non-profit charitable organization is a direct parallel to Amazonia Expeditions. This organization cares for the economic, educational, and health needs of the natives of the Amazon, specifically in and around the Tamshiyacu-Tahuayo Reserve. They help send the children of the jungle to the city to get an education beyond elementary school.

"Our motto is 'one child at a time.' We hope the kids we send away come back to live and work in their village," Dolly said. "Some of them do; others don't."

A match made in heaven, the two married, and with their skill and innovative ideas, Amazonia Expeditions grew to become what it is today. Dr. Beaver is a member of the IHT Industry Liaison, Operations Manager of Yale University's Tahuayo River Amazon Research Center, and a published author. He and Dolly have a 12-year-old daughter. Both companies open the culture of the Amazon safely to the world.

"I'm an IHT major and this presentation was great," said Senior Rebecca King. "I like to learn about different countries and their culture."

Both Amazonia Expeditions and Angels of the Amazon have reputations deemed outstanding and have accumulated numerous awards over the years. Dr. Beaver listed a few recent awards during his presentation, one of them being one of just 27 companies to receive 100 percent client satisfaction, a perfect score.

More information on Amazonia Expeditions and Angels of the Amazon can be found online at PeruJungle.com.

Freshman conducts cardiovascular study on students

BY JESSICA O'KEEFE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Freshmen Daniel Salahuddin, a biology major with a pre-med track, is attempting to change the health of Saint Leo students by conducting a survey that will result in seeing how the food people eat ties into their cardiovascular health as blood pressure.

The idea for the project was sparked in Salahuddin's mind while in class.

Dr. Hudson Reynolds, the director of the honor program, came into one of Salahuddin's classes and encouraged students to take part in undergraduate research. After Salahuddin showed some interest in taking part in such research, Reynolds told him to go to Dr. Leo Ondrivic, professor of math and sciences, for help. Ondrivic became Daniel's mentor, helping him develop his cardiovascular study.

Salahuddin explained how people relate blood pressure to being of old age. But, relatively young people should be just as concerned about their health. He became involved with medicine at the end of middle school.

"When I was in 8th grade," he explained, "I shadowed a local surgeon, and I was able to see various surgeries, such as a coronary by-pass. I just saw it and it rocked my world to see all these vital organs, like the lungs compress. Since then, I wanted to become a Doctor."

Salahuddin's study will last three years; therefore, it will be focused on current freshmen and sophomores, as well as next year's freshmen. This study will be rather time consuming to students, but in the end it will be worth it, if they can improve their health.

Each participant's heart rate, waist line measurement, and body mass index will be recorded as key factors to the study. Salahuddin is also looking to weigh each participant in the beginning of the year. With this information he wishes to see if the phrase "freshmen 15" holds any truth, and, if so, how can it be avoided.

"I'm trying to see how diet and exercise correlate with one's health in terms of blood pressure, heart rate, weight, waistline measurement, and Body Mass Index. This study will provide an insight as to whether or not unhealthy dietary habits have the ability to negatively affect blood pressure at a relatively young age," he said. "The study will also be able to determine if the infamous 'freshman 15' carries actual validity."

When students were asked how they felt about the study and participating in it, the thoughts seemed positive.

"I'm doing it because before I came to college, I was worried my eating habits would change. By participating in this study, I want to find out how much they actually have changed, and how it affects my body. It is a stellar idea that could promote health awareness on the Saint Leo campus," said freshman Emily Zambito.

While another student, freshman Grace Ryan said, "I think it's a good idea because I think a lot of people have no idea how severe their health problems are. It's a pretty amazing thing to have someone care so much about other people's health, which is a great sign of responsibility."

If anyone is interested, Salahuddin started a facebook group called "Effects of Diet on Cardiovascular Health of Students at Saint Leo U." Visit this site for more information.

Are YOU registered to VOTE

BY SIMONE WILLIAMS
Lions' Pride Assistant Editor

The entire structure of America's government is based on citizens voting for representation. With such a groundbreaking presidential election just on the horizon, it's more important than ever for everyone to make sure they are registered to vote.

The voting process can be broken down into three simple steps: register to vote, become an educated voter, and finally vote.

The first step is, thankfully, now easier to do. Race and sex have been eliminated as determining factors of one's eligibility to vote. Up until July 1, 1971, only citizens 21 and older could vote. But, with the 26th amendment to the constitution, now citizens at least 18 years old can vote. Some states have two other requirements: that the person not be or have been imprisoned or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and that the person not be judged mentally incompetent by a court of law.

Voter registration is not automatic in most US states, and the registration process varies from state to state. Each state also has a different deadline. However, in most states it is at least 30 days before November 4.

Generally, there are two ways to vote. The first is by mail. Mail-in registration forms are widely accepted and available. They can be downloaded offline. Another method of registration is in person at any registration location, such as the Department of Motor Vehicles.

The next step is for all eligible voters to learn as much as they can about candidates. This is a necessary step in the preparation for Election Day. It is as simple as reading and watching the news, reading articles online, and visiting candidate websites. Learning about candidates and their positions on important issues is a key factor in determining who to vote for. There is a non-partisan group called Project Vote Smart, which provides lists of candidates, officeholders, and their websites. The Project Vote smart website is http://www.votesmart.org/.

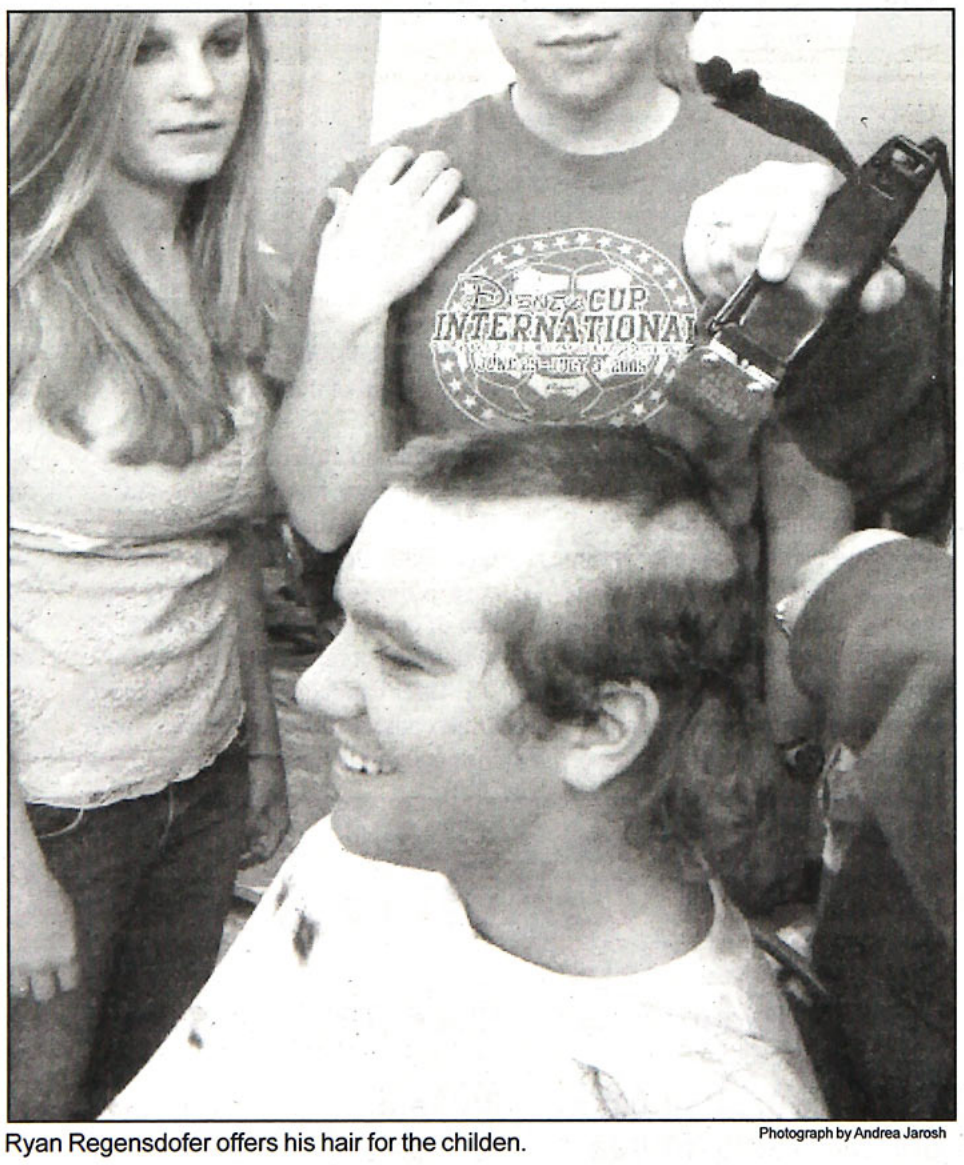
The last step is to simply vote. The polling location of anyone who wishes to vote is determined by their address. After registering to vote, a notification will be sent in the mail from the elections office. In some states, eligible voters receive a voter ID card. The card will include the necessary information to determine their polling place. In other states, eligible voters receive a sample ballot, a piece of paper or booklet that includes their polling place. Polling places can change up until the last minute, so it is important to check polling places online. This can be done at www.declareyourself.com.

Most college students have to do things a little differently. Out-of-state students who wish to vote must do so absentee. This method is for most Leoland students, and must be done after registering to vote. Absentee voting is done through the mail. Students just have to download the form, fill it out, and mail it to their home state.

Election Day is on November 4, 2008, and it is important for everyone who is eligible to get out there and vote. If the right to vote no longer existed, the country would no longer be a democratic nation. By not voting, citizens are essentially giving up their right, and duty, to change the government at all. The right to vote has been difficult to achieve for all races and genders throughout history. Now that everyone has this right, it should be exercised.

SAE shaves to save

BY JESSICA O'KEEFE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer



Ryan Regensdofer offers his hair for the childen. Photograph by Andrea Jarosh

The Brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon and others came together to help benefit The Children's Miracle Network yet again. Last month in the SCC boardroom, 70 plus students gathered for what proved to be quite a successful evening. Students had the opportunity to bid on shaving participants' heads. For the brothers who didn't want to lose the hair off their heads, they offered other opportunities for hair removal, such as backs and chests. When these brothers were put up to bid, students were able to wax their backs or chests.

Ryan Regensdorfer, whose head auctioned for a whopping $300, explained, "Last year we raised about $1500, and this year we have set a goal of $5000."

Although there goal wasn't met, the entire event rose close to $3000. The fraternity has been doing this event for the last three years. Dane Gruenebaum, a senior and brother of Sigma Alpha Epsilon came up with the idea.

"Some of the brothers and I were just hanging out, and the idea came to me. Since we couldn't donate to locks of love, I suggested we held a benefit where the brothers could shave their heads and students could bid on them, and that's how Shave SAE began," Gruenbaum explained.

The brothers are hoping to have met their previous goal and possibly have a female or two offer to have their heads shaved next year.

April Fool's!

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

The day for practical joke playing and hoaxes is fast approaching on the first of next month with April Fool's Day.

Even though there isn't an exact "first April Fool's Day" that can be recorded, one widespread belief about the origins of April Fool's Day is that the tradition developed simultaneously in several cultures around the same time as a celebration of the first day of spring. Although the exact history of April Fool's Day remains uncertain, the common thinking is that it originated in France around 1582, according to april-fools online.

The reason most pinpoint April Fool's Day to France is because of the calendar reform by King Charles IX. At this time, King Charles introduced his nation to the Gregorian Calendar, which moved New Year's Day from the first of April to the first of January. According to wilstar online, "prior to the change of New Year's Day, the new year was originally celebrated for eight days beginning on March 25th."

Communication being done mostly by foot in those days, the message about the new New Year's Day often took several months or even years to reach people; therefore, the majority of France continued to celebrate the new year on April first, either out of ignorance or out of pure refusal to change.

These people were looked upon as backward and soon became labeled "fools" by the general populace who had changed. The non-conformity was often punished by ridicule, hoaxes, and practical jokes. Over time, the harassment evolved into prank playing by everyone on April first.

April Fool's Day can be seen celebrated in different ways by different cultures all around the world. In Scotland, April Fool's is celebrated in two days, with the second day referred to as "Taily Day," dedicated to jokes involving the posterior area of the body; the "kick me" sign can be traced to this observance. In Mexico, however, the April Fool's Day equal actually originated as a sad observance of King Herod's slaughter of innocent children, the day falling on December 28.

Though not a holiday in its own right, April Fool's Day is a notable day celebrated in many countries. It will be interesting to see what sort of pranks and jokes will be played out this year.

Scootertrash: *Hard Scrabble* Reading

BY NICK NUNES
Special to the Lions' Pride

Dr. Mark "Tiger" Edmonds, who has taught at Saint Leo for 26 years, has earned depths of respect from passing students and faculty alike. After previously having published books such as *The Ghost of Scootertrash Past* and *Long Rider: A Tale of Just Passin' Through,* he has released *Hard Scrabble*, which is new and conversely different from his Road Literature classics.

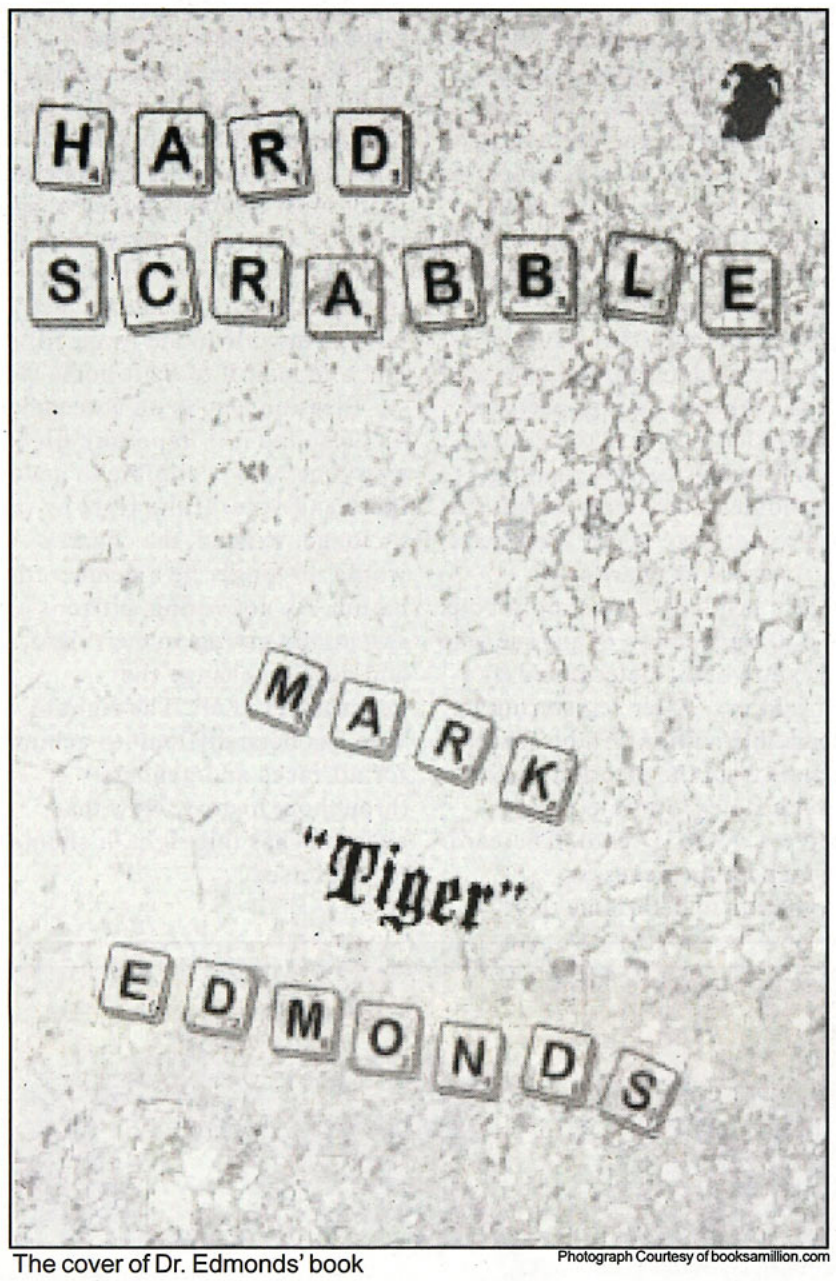
In the Canon Memorial Library on Thursday, February 28, Edmonds' red BMW motorcycle sat center stage of the affair that was about to entrance the gathered group of devout friends. The faint sound of Edmonds' Johnny Cash-esque voice could be heard reciting his road poetry from a small CD player in the corner of the room, while the man himself, with a personable air, greeted and conversed lightly with the many people who attended in his honor. The multi-cultural gathering seemed to teem with anticipation of hearing from the biker guru himself.

As he strode over to his bike, his boots faintly jingling with each pace, the audience became reverent in anticipation. He fiddled with his papers and books for a moment before taking a sip of his coffee. The Director of the Library introduced Edmonds auspiciously, though everyone seated needed no introduction to this sage biker.

Edmonds thanked the great number of people who afforded him with their presence and began to explain that Ms. Carol Ann Moon, one of Saint Leo's Library goddesses, requested this event, and that he wouldn't refuse her.

The swami, Edmonds, sat on his BMW and flipped through the pages of his books. He paused and surveyed the gathering of people before deciding to open with a joke. His eloquence and biker-charm penetrated the room indiscriminately; by the end of the joke, laughter pervaded the room.

He began with an explanation of what it is he writes, Road Literature. To use the shaman's own words, "Road Literature is basically a journal of a road-trip." He also mentioned other great authors who are attune to this "undiscovered treasure" of American Literature, such as John Steinbeck and Hunter S. Thompson. He emphasized that each writer of this genre had his similarities and differences. All of these writers, however, share commonalities: the road, the detailing, and the importance of a journey. Each author, he specified, have their differences too: from Steinbeck's travels in a truck, Thompson's destruction of rental cars, some traveled with hippies, to Edmonds and his long-rider.



The cover of Dr. Edmonds' book
Photograph Courtesy of booksamillion.com

A common characteristic is the documentation of the vehicle; in Edmonds' case, his BMW road bike with more than 440,000 miles on it. The significance of chronology was made clear, the setting, especially weather, was of great importance. Obviously, the weather permits the mood, possibility, and consequent events of the journey.

Edmonds affirmed that themes of change were also a naturally indispensable aspect of the literary writing genre he is so fond of reading and creating. He read stories to the crowd, stories that certainly do lighten the heart and some that enlighten the mind, but all of them articulate and moving.

Edmonds finished reading one of his stories, one involving "the code." He mentioned that this "biker code" is one of chivalry, that it involves taking care of the very young, the very old, and of course damsels in distress; all with inherent respectability.

Tiger handed out small packets of Oreo cookies as he told stories about his encounters with trouble as a result of his love of these sugary treats. He explained that once he and a friend had traveled to see wild ponies.

"Even though I knew better," he explained, "I pulled out a bag of Oreos from my saddle-bag."

Suffice to say, the crinkling of the plastic rallied the ponies into a stampede in search of the morsels. He eyed a fellow with New York plates ruffling through his trunk. As the ponies simmered down from Edmonds throwing cookies in the air, he strolled over to the New Yorker and handed him the bag of cookies, purposefully making that rustling noise, just for the hilarity. The story ended with him riding off away from the commotion on his motorbike, delighting in the mayhem he saw in his wing-mirror.

Aside from such stories of his journeys across the continent, are those of his new book, *Hard Scrabble*. This new book takes a look at the darker side of the spectrum of life: death. The book is centered upon the touching and inspiring events that took place between Edmonds and his dearly missed friend and Scrabble partner of 40 years. Themes of questioning and a search for the answers to life are the fundamentals of the conversations that occurred between Edmonds and Nancy Pacey. As he read excerpts from *Hard Scrabble*, the emotion and gravity of the writing pervades even the iciest recesses of the soul. And, the power with which the stories are conveyed was illustrated by the somber mood during one particular reading, in which Edmonds' voice cracked with sorrow.

Hard Scrabble has been sent to be considered as part of the Oprah book club, and Edmonds sees the book as the most promising one he's composed to date. Edmonds plans on retiring this May from Saint Leo University, and he will be dearly missed by all the people whose lives he has affected. However, he says he looks forward to retirement, which will involve "naps, riding (motorcycle and horses alike), fishing, and hunting." Currently, he is working on composing a Wild West novel as a present for his father. Writing a cowboy novel is all he's working on, and he enjoys that fact; though he won't be working at SLU, he'll probably never stop teaching, and he'll always have stories to tell.

2008 Final Exam Schedule

Class (MWF)	Last Class Day	Exam Length	Class (TR)	Last Class Day	Exam Length
8:00 or 8:30am	Friday April 25	8:20-10:00am	8:00am	Thursday April 24	8:20-10:00am
9:30am	Monday April 28	8:20-10:00am	9:30am	Tuesday April 29	8:20-10:00am
10:30am	Friday April 25	10:10-11:50am	11:00am	Thursday April 24	10:10-11:50am
11:30am	Monday April 28	10:10-11:50am	12:30pm	Tuesday April 29	12:50-2:30pm
12:30pm	Friday April 25	12:50-2:30pm	2:00pm	Thursday April 24	2:40-4:20pm
1:30pm	Monday April 28	12:50-2:30pm	3:30pm	Tuesday April 29	4:30-6:10pm
2:30pm	Friday April 25	2:40-4:20pm			
3:30pm	Monday April 28	2:40-4:20pm			
4:30pm	Monday April 28	4:30-6:10pm			

Students make effort to save planet

BY JESSCIA O'KEEFE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Kirsten Schroeder, a sophomore majoring in biology, and her roommate Amanda Massie, also a sophomore, have started a recycling effort on campus.

Each week, the girls collect the recyclable items from students who live in Roderick Hall and bring them to a local recycling center located on Curly Road. The girls hope to raise a little money and get recycling bins for some of the residence halls so more students can begin to recycle.

"We always recycle at home, and during the school year, we collect recyclables, bring them to the recycle center off of Curly Road, and then we decided to start collecting other people's recycling, then started a facebook group to make more people aware," Schroeder explained when asked why they began this effort.

Since Schroeder and Massie are both environmentally aware, recycling is important to them.

"I think the 21st century is pretty informed on how good recycling is, so why not help make the world that much better and cleaner? I was brought up to recycle and not to litter, and now they are just kind of habits," Massie said.

"I hope, if people actually do it, it will help to get people to make it a habit of their own, learn to appreciate the earth, and spread the word. No matter how much you do, whether it's recycling one water bottle or picking up that one piece of garbage, it absolutely ALL helps! I really think many don't realize that."

"I hate to see our beautiful campus littered with people's garbage. Recycling is so simple; it doesn't make sense to waste such valuable natural resources that can be reused, such as bottles and cans. We all are abusing the earth in general. Our generation is very wasteful and think the earth is at our disposal," Schroeder explained.

Hopefully, by next year, all the residence halls will have recycle bins available to keep this movement going.

Kirsten Schroeder and Amanda Massie recycle.

Photographed by Kristin Brittain

Picture This!

BY ALYSSA CLOUTIER
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Picture This is an event Saint Leo University holds every year. It allows prospective students, who are already admitted, to come to the Saint Leo University and get a little taste of campus life.

This year, Picture This began on Sunday, March 2. It lasted until 12:30 p.m. the next day. Around 3:30 p.m. on the first day, the prospective students checked in at the Community Center lobby. From there, they participated in a scavenger hunt and various ice breakers. Dinner was served down by the lake, and students could enjoy a live band as the entertainment. Later on in the evening, they were also treated to s'mores by the lake.

The participants stayed in a current student's room to become better acquainted with what it's like to live in a dorm on campus.

The next day began with breakfast and a morning check-in. The participants of Picture This were then brought to Selby Auditorium for a mock class regarding social sciences, presented by Dr. Shawn Bingham. The prospective students were also shown a video and slide show, with lunch as the two day event's conclusion.

Picture This also had a schedule for the parents as well. This involved a separate check in on Monday morning, which was then followed by a question and answer session. The parents were given a campus tour and had their day concluded with lunch as well.

"It's a really good experience for them to have. They get a better understanding of what Saint Leo University is really about rather than just looking at the pictures on the website," Junior Nichole Collins explained.

There is also another Picture This weekend taking place from March 30 - 31. Those who are participating in the events are allowed to pick which weekends they would like to attend.

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Wendy Geer
BA Saint Leo University 2005
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Rebuild or Leave: My Trip to New Orleans

BY KATIE GAISER

Photographs by Katie Gaiser, Randia Coakley, and Deangria Carey

For my spring break 2008, I spent a week in New Orleans with 13 other people, volunteering my time to help the people of this city. What I experienced there were some of the most life-altering and wonderful experiences of my life. And this is what I did.

Day One

Eight of us to decided to go help out at a local animal shelter called ARNO (Animal Rescue of New Orleans). ARNO was founded in October 2005 by Jane Garrison, who was involved in the immediate rescue of displaced and wounded animals just after Katrina hit. Once there, I got a chance to walk a couple dogs around the block. It was easy to tell the cruelty they'd been through because of the storm with some of the marks on their bodies. After stretching my legs a bit, I helped wash and sanitize some

Group shot at ARNO

two dozen cat cages and carriers. Many of the cages had signs posted, marking some cats as in need of special attention and care. These cats could only be touched by regular volunteers. It was clear to me after spending a day there that the people who work at ARNO are completely devoted to the well-being of all animals, especially those that need it most. Throughout the day, most workers could be heard throughout the building talking to the animals as though they were their children. It was truly inspiring to see such devotion of a different kind.

Cleaning cat cages

I was happy to work at such a caring environment and be the in presence of true selflessness and devotion.

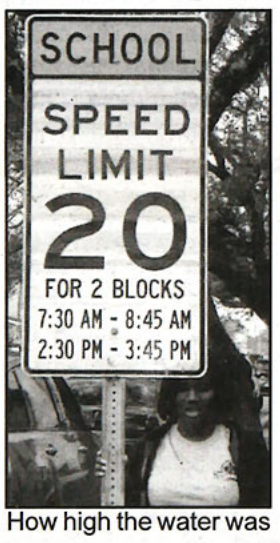
Day Two

We were fortunate enough on this day to take a tour of the hardest hit areas in the city hosted by Mr. Taylor Casey, a local resident and father of one of Saint Leo's current freshmen. The Lower Ninth Ward was on this list. We spent hours driving up and down the narrow roads of these areas, staring in disbelief at the damage still present. Corner stores, gas stations, restaurants, and entire neighborhoods were abandoned still, most untouched since the very day of the storm. The flood was very unfortunate to this area, considering 36

Damaged houses still untouched

percent of its residents lived below the poverty line. I can't imagine what that number is now.

Left alone, Katrina wouldn't have destroyed these people and their homes. Unfortunately, when the storm came in, it overwhelmed three out of the four existing flood walls in New Orleans, which for many years have kept city above water. Once they broke, water as high as eight feet flooded the area with no warning at all. It was difficult to see so much devastation untouched after three years have gone by. I can only hope something more will be done for these people before they lose their land forever.



How high the water was

We later enjoyed a fine dinner, a classic New Orleans dish called Jambalaya, prepared by Patricia Casey. Their hospitality was greatly appreciated and gave us a chance to really bond more as a group.

Day Three

This was the day I got to experience a taste of the oldest area of New Orleans, the French Quarter. From the moment I stepped onto Jackson Square, I was surrounded by beauty. Located within the tall steel gates of the Square, a breath-taking park rests peacefully amongst the town, offering a sense of serenity and pure beauty. Artists lined the outer walls of the park with their brilliant work. Musicians, streets actors, palm readers, and fortune tellers set up camp along the streets in hope that the shoppers would show their appreciation. This was New Orleans, the sights, the sounds, the spirits. This is the same spirit I knew once existed in those abandoned neighborhoods.

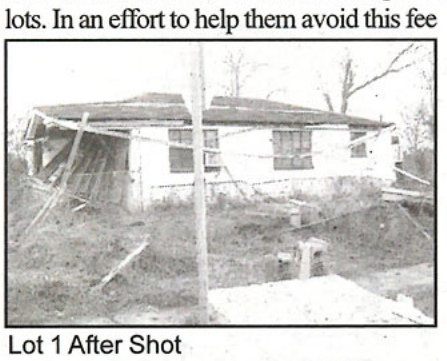
I ventured deep into the heart of the neighborhood and saw buildings as old as 200 years still standing. I was standing on some of the same roads and sidewalks built during the colonial era. It was a magnificent sight to be in the presence of such old architecture. I walked down the famous Bourbon Street and entered a few quaint shops along the way. I really enjoyed my experience of the French Quarter and will always appreciate it.

St. Louis Cathedral

Day Four

This was our first day of labor in the Lower Ninth Ward. Our group volunteered for an organization known as Lean On Me, Inc. Devoted to helping families throughout California, this organization focused its efforts to New Orleans immediately after Katrina hit. After gathering some tools for the job, we headed off to our first site. We were also joined by a member of the US Coastguard Academy named Nathan. The lot was located roughly a half mile from one of the major levees that broke.

We were told the residents were being fined $100 a month for not maintaining their lots. In an effort to help them avoid this fee


Lot 1 After Shot

Lot 1 Before Shot

and help start the process of rebuilding, we used rakes, saws, clippers, and other tools to clear off the land. We also spent time removing debris left from the house. Some of the group found some interesting things including a backpack filled with schools books, a Bible, and bed sheets. We spent hours cutting down trees, clearing debris, cutting and raking tall overgrown grass, and bagging it up for pick up. It was rough work, but it was worth it to me to be helping these people take a step in a positive direction.

Day Five

A new day, a new lot. Armed with similar tools, we headed to the new lot just behind our work site from the previous day. Although the only trace of a house that stood on this lot was the concrete front stoop, the lot itself was massively over-grown with grass, weeds, and small trees. We spent most of the day pulling roots, hacking grass, and stacking tree limbs. We were sore, we were tired, but we were doing something great and I think we all knew it. A few residents stopped and talked to us that day, which was a real treat. Many people were thankful for us being there, and that meant a lot to me.

After another hard day's work, we set out for an authentic New Orleans style crawfish boil. Julie and Dan McKnight, residents of the town of Covington, which was an hour away from the city, cooked us a glorious meal of crawfish I will never forget. Once there, Mr. McKnight gave us a lesson in how to properly prepare and boil the crawfish. When we sat down to eat, he explained to us how to take apart the crawfish and eat it. I was amazed at the flavor of the crawfish and especially the method of eating them. The McKnight family provided us with warm hospitality and kindness I truly appreciated after such an exhausting day of work. With our bellies satisfied, we headed home for a good night sleep to finish out the week strong.

Boiling crawfish

Before After

Day Six

Last day, last lot. This one was a killer. It was hot and sunny and there was little shade for relief. The grass was so high it was hard to see the ground beneath it. Nothing was left of the house, but a large two foot trench surrounded most of the property and made it difficult for us to get from the land to the road. However, we developed a system that ended up working out for us. We were also joined by another group of college students from Georgia. The work went fast because after two days of doing the same thing, we were practically professionals. We finished in record time, and I was proud of our team and everything we had accomplished that week.

For the rest of the evening, we spent time packing and hanging out. I was sad to realize that the next day we would be going home. I could tell that we had all developed a bond with one another, and I didn't want it to end. The people I spent my trip with were amazing, good-hearted

Last group shot

individuals. I was so privileged to be able to spend a week of my time giving back with them. I truly recommend to anyone who is in need of a unique experience and able to give back, to go and experience a SERVE trip. I swear you won't regret it.

Arts & Entertainment

Wine, Cheese, and Crackers… for only $5

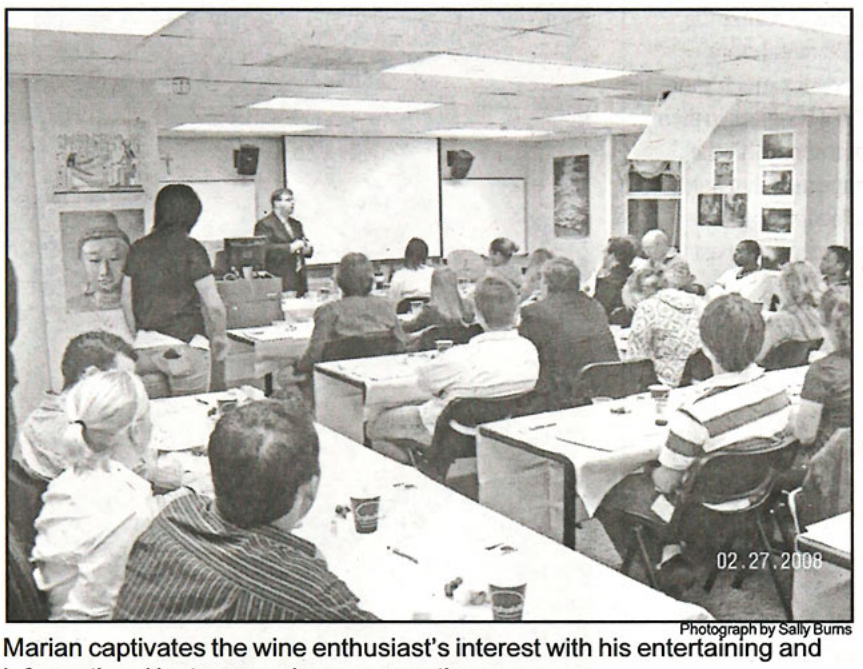
BY AVRIL THOMAS
Special To The Lions' Pride

International Tourism Club (ITC) presented a fun-filled evening of wine education and give away's for the Saint Leo community to enjoy.

On Wednesday, February 27 students headed for St. Edwards Hall, room 165, with a determined pace in their steps in an attempt to get there before 7:00 p.m. The notion of alcohol ignited the interest of numerous students; many attempted to RSVP. However, accommodation constraints forced the International Tourism Club (ITC) to turn some people away. The mood was comfortable and familiar with a promise of a classy evening – the tables were decorated with white table cloths and the place settings were aligned with grapes, cheese, crackers and glasses for the tasting.

The evening began with champagne. The wines of the night were White Zinfandel, Chardonnay, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Pinot Noir. Wine connoisseur, Peter Marian, an adjunct professor for hospitality and tourism, taught tasters how to appreciate the wine. The processes of tasting wine included several steps: first, look at the wine and judge its appearance; next, swirl the glass; and then smell the wine while allowing the wine's aroma to tell the story of its ingredients.

After smelling the wine, Marian encouraged all to taste, but he instructed the wine enthusiast to slurp the liquid on the first sip. This allowed it to circulate the entire mouth before swallowing. Before an appreciation of the wine's flavours can occur, another sip was needed.



Photograph by Sally Burns
Marian captivates the wine enthusiast's interest with his entertaining and informational lecture on wine consumption.

Marian skilfully shared his knowledge about the wine, and some of the students who attended were glad they were given this opportunity.

"The palette will not be in shock as it's the first time around," said Marian. "And now you can appreciate the flavour and body of the wine. Go ahead, taste it again," encouraged Marian.

Photograph by Sally Burns
Marian pictured above with his beloved wine.

He then asked the audience to tell him what they tasted. Some people commented they tasted oak, flowers, and grapes. At this point, everyone decided whether or not they liked that particular wine.

"The session was an educational experience and a wonderful opportunity because as an under aged student I was able to partake in wine legally, or at least imagine since I could only be given non-alcoholic wine," said sophomore Kristen Moultrie. "On the serious side, I enjoyed being able to learn the different steps involved in distinguishing the quality of wine, in what conditions and types of environment certain grapes need to make quality wine, and which wines are paired with which dishes to make a scrumptious meal."

Marion and the members of ITC had the vision to present a unique program for the student body, and it was greatly appreciated by the students who attended, especially the underage students.

"It was something that was never done on campus before, and as a result, my interest was sparked. I was inclined to go because it was something I was interested in doing, but I never had an opportunity to attend one before, and I am pleased because the program surpassed my expectations," said Vernon Davis.

In addition to the wine education received, ITC gave away many gifts: dinner for two at Saddlebrook's Restaurant and Bar, two sets of passes to Florida's Premier Winery, three bottles of wine (only for those 21 and over), and some Saint Leo paraphernalia.

The event was a success. The general consensus from the students is that ITC should do this again next semester in the same controlled environment whereby they could learn more about alcohol in a logical manner.

Saint Leo University's Theatre Players are proud to present:

1984
by George Orwell

Wednesday, March 26 through Saturday, March 29 at 8 p.m. in Selby Auditorm

Secret Revealed: *The Secret Lives Of Men And Women is a real page turner*

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

Secrets are everywhere. Reader's discovered this in the book *The Secret Lives Of Men And Women* and entered a world filled with secret regrets, fears, confessions, and desires of real people.

"Whenever I fly I put hopeful messages in the seat pocket for the next passengers to read." This is the opening secret from *The Secret Lives Of Men And Women,* compiled by Frank Warren. It is the third book in the *PostSecret* installment.

According to the introduction, the *PostSecret* project was founded as a community art project in November 2004. Frank Warren, a small town business owner, printed 3,000 blank, self-addressed, postcards and invited people to anonymously mail in a truthful, personal, never before told secret. Warren left the cards in public places to be found, as well as handed them out to strangers. One hundred artfully crafted cards were mailed back to Warren out of the 3,000, and they were put on display as an exhibition in Washington DC's *Artomatic* in 2004.

Warren thought that was the end of the project, but to this day he still receives secrets from all over the world. Warren began the *PostSecret* website, www.postsecret.com, in January 2005. People are asked to send in anonymous secrets on 4-by-6-inch postcards made out of any material that can be mailed. Warren has received 80,000 postcards since 2004.

The *PostSecret* installment consists of four books in total, and the website is updated with new postcards every Sunday. The secrets range from confessions of love, habits, and desires, all the way to criminal acts, and x-rated activities. They reflect the diversity within the world, and yet, readers can page through the book and connect with a few words or images seen.

When my sister and I first came across *The Secret Lives Of Men And Women* in the bookstore, we spent the following half hour perusing the pages, and we were hooked ever since. The secrets blaring their truths out to the whole world both shocked and amazed us at how much we can relate to some of them. The book is a real page turner, not because of any thrills or cliffhangers that might be lurking on the next page, but because of the anticipation I get from reading such intimate truths from complete strangers.

Sometimes I enjoy the post card turned artwork more then the actual secret because of the effort put into creating the card. Some are very elaborate, while others are quick and simple. But, there have been many I have come across that I would like to frame and hang on my wall based on its beauty.

The Secret Lives Of Men And Women is a hard cover book consisting of 144 matte pages. I like this book more than others from the *PostSecret* series because it doesn't have secrets span across two pages, which made it harder to read.

As an avid reader of the *PostSecret* collection, this book was hard to put down. My secret is I love *PostSecret*, and I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in the human condition.

Be Kind Rewind...push, play, and repeat!

BY THOMAS SCAGLIONE
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Tired of the recurring mental frustrations of trying to pick out what type of movie you want to watch at the theatre? The high cost of a simple movie ticket nowadays has driven many people to prioritize and pick what movies they want to pay for, and that choice has unfortunately robbed viewers of their choice to take risks with different genres like artistic foreign films and the purposely sarcastic "B" movies. *Be Kind Rewind*, with leads Jack Black, Mos Def, and Danny Glover, might just be the answer!

The ever incapable Jerry (Black) and the aspiring responsible Mike (Def) find themselves in charge of the humble VHS video rental store owned by Elroy Fletcher (Glover) as he leaves to honor the memory of the local jazz legend who is rumored to have been born in his store. Jerry, through the freak accident of a failed paranoid based escapade, becomes magnetized and erases all of the rental tapes.

In an effort to save his job, the store, and his reputation with Mr. Fletcher, Mike gets the idea to remake all the videos in the shop, using junkyard props and actors from the neighborhood. With a chance to be featured in these hilarious remakes, the residents of the neighborhood request more films to be made. As Jerry and Mike become "famous" and the shop's business increases, unforeseen complications arise and the acting duo begins to realize the video rental store stands for much more than a business in their community. It's the connection that holds the people together and keeps the past alive.

Ranging from spoofing classics, such as *Ghostbusters* (1984) and *Driving Mrs. Daisy* (1989), to the fairly recent *Rush Hour 2* (2001) and *Men in Black* (1997), this movie balances comedy and action scenes with a dramatic background.

Perhaps one of the only downfalls of this movie would be the broad range of films that are remade. It's easy for someone who doesn't watch a lot of movies, or at least the ones being depicted, to get lost in a conversation that is riddled with the subtexts of inside jokes and knowledge.

The film is written and directed by Michael Gondry (2005's *Block Party* and 2004's *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind*) and is rated PG-13 for some sexual references. While there is no set date for the DVD release, avid fans can hold themselves over with the website www.bekindmovie.com, which is very creatively made and includes many hilarious features.

High School Confidential elevated to Top Secret

BY CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

The release of this new T.V. series is geared towards only the V.I.P members of the Women's Entertainment network on channel 44 on Monday nights at 10 p.m. But for those who wish to gain access, these are the top secret informational stories told by a group of 14 girls about their four years in high school. And from the looks of it, high school seems to be a little tougher than the actors from *Save by the Bell* made it look like.

High School Confidential is more than just a reality show that is going to tell more sob stories. It's more about how to survive and how to deal. This is more of a high drama *Real World* or *Big Brother*. The purpose is the make it ok to have certain kinds of problems at that stage in life. The others, while entertaining, are more fluctuated between who can drink the most, how many people can she hook up with, and who can I punch today. *High School Confidential* is based on first hand experience from freshman year to graduation. It includes the influence of parents, as well as friends, and media.

Not only does this show focus on the petty, immature moments in an adolescent world, it focuses on real adult problems that arise without warning and would make anyone, male or female, grow up a few years faster.

For instance, in the opener of the show a girl named Lauren, who had man things going for, is diagnosed with a brain tumor. On the other hand, there are those stories about Cappie that would just make the old people shake their heads, and the adolescent males ask for her phone number. The mere trash she subjects and relates herself to is drinking and feeling somewhat accomplished that she can say she has only passed out a few times.

This could be seen as another soap opera to take up day time T.V.. But, all in all, it's something that this particular age group could dive into to feel like they do belong in this kind of world, and that what they are doing can be seen as normal. Every stage of life has its flaws and its happiness, but high school is apparently the place where everyone wants to go back to. However, judging from these stories, these girls will be happier to just get out.

Spamalot leaves audience gasping for air between laughs

BY KRISTIN BRITTAIN
Lions' Pride Editor in Chief

Spamalot left the audience with tears in their eyes and sore abs from laughter. With musical numbers, such as the "Fisch Schlapping Song" and "The Song That Goes Like This," it was hard not have a great time at the show.

As the official *Monty Python Spamalot* site states, the show is "lovingly ripped off from the classic film comedy *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*."

It is two hours and twenty minutes of non stop laughter.

The show is based on a parody of the legendary King Arthur and the Knights of the Round Table. The story recounts the journey of King Arthur and his men as they travel through the English countryside and encounter their many foes, such as the Black Knight, the Knights Who Say "Ni," and the Killer Rabbit of Antioch, while trying to find the Holy Grail (which was located underneath a chair in the audience). Some of the characters were based off of the movie, *Monty Python*, and others were classic characters (with a twist) from King Arthur's legendary tale. King Arthur, Sir Lancelot the Homicidally Brave, and Sir Belvedere the Strangely Flatulent where present, and other invented characters from *Monty Python* include Sir Robin, the Not-Quite-So-Brave-as-Sir-Lancelot, Sir Not-Appearing-In-This-Show, and the ever popular one-line Not-Dead Fred.

The stadium style seating at the Ruth Eckerd Hall Center for the Performing Arts provided an excellent view of the stage settings. The costumes, sets, and lighting were outstanding and fit perfect for the big-budget production.

For those who like hilarious dialogue, with knee-slapping jokes and pop culture references, performed by a great cast, don't miss Broadway's *Spamalot* while on national tour.

Calender of Events

March 28:
- CAB Foam Party
9 p.m.- 2 a.m. Between Crawford Hall and Student Activities Building
- 1984 By: George Orwell
Now until Saturday at 8 p.m. in Selby Auditorm

March 29:
- Legions of the Hidden Lion
- Muvico Trip
must sign up before hand and show up at 6 p.m.

March 31- April 2
- Invisible Children
movie at 7 p.m.

April 3:
- Invisible Children
National Tour, 7 p.m. in SSC Boardroom
- Avenue Q
Sign up before, $5.

April 9:
Voice of Bart Simpson, Nancy Cartwright, 7 p.m. in Marmion Bowman

April 11:
- Spring Fling
Dr. Jim Wand
Deal or No Deal

April 12:
- **Spring Fling**
Project Texas
CAB Comedy Club-Henry Cho

Sports

Junior Ben Brigham, returning attack for the Lions. Photograph by: Mike Carlson

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

Number five is alive. Junior Benjamin Brigham is back to attack this year on Saint Leo's own lacrosse team, which is in it's third year. Brigham started as a freshman after coming from the northern state of Massachusetts. Ever since then, Brigham has warmed up to the team as well as the weather. Although lacrosse was not his first choice in athletics when he was a kid, no one has been able to take his stick away without a fight.

"I started playing in seventh grade. My best friend's father was the youth coach, and he said I would be a good player. So, I put down the baseball, picked up a lacrosse stick and never looked back," said Brigham.

Head coach Brad Jorgensen must have been glad Brigham choose the lacrosse field as opposed to the ball park because out of 12 games in the 2006 season Brigham started in 11, was second in goals scored, tied with number of assists, and tied for third in number of ground balls, but that was just his freshman year. Brigham's talents have improved in numbers and in dedication.

Brigham is highly capable of setting up his own goals and expectations. His initial goals are to be successful and continue making a name for this new program at Saint Leo.

"I hope to gain a great learning experience, being a team player, and being successful for the sake of the program," said Brigham.

In the team's first away game, Brigham, led the way for a victory in the Lions name. He scored five goals and had two assists. With a four and three record so far this season, Brigham hopes to create a winning vibe among his teammates to accomplish a productive season.

"If we come together as a team and work together, there is nothing our team can't do," said Brigham.

With their first conference games coming up, Brigham hopes to continue his contributions. However, he knows there is nothing more powerful and more intimidating than a team with a purpose. The Lions know very well the team is what gives the individual players the opportunities to prove they belong.

"Because we give each other opportunities, we can go out, make great plays, be competitive, and win games," said Brigham.

While one player can't make a difference, one player can be a great example to help a team bind together.

SAINT LEO SCORES

Baseball
Mar. 12, 2008
Wayne State
10-5 W
Mar. 15, 2008
Eckerd
5-9 L
Mar. 15, 2008
Eckerd
6-4 W
Mar. 16, 2008
Eckerd
26-12 W

Lacrosse
Mar. 11, 2008
Limestone
5-14 L
Mar. 15, 2008
Pace Univ.
8-9 L

Men's Golf
Mar. 16-18, 2008
2008 Southeastern Collegiate
11th After 36 Holes

Women's Golf
Mar. 10-11, 2008
33rd Annual Peggy Kirk Bell Invitational
12th

Softball
Mar. 15, 2008
Molloy
8-0 W
Mar. 15, 2008
Molloy
2-1 W
Mar. 17, 2008
C.W. Post
5-1 W
Mar. 17, 2008
C.W. Post
4-5 L
Mar. 18, 2008
West Georgia
3-0 W

Women's Tennis
Mar. 17, 2008
Southern Arkansas
9-0 W

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Women's Tennis	Mar. 30, 2008	3 p.m.	Baseball
Mar. 28, 2008	1 p.m.	Baseball	Apr. 12, 2008
3 p.m.	Lacrosse	Apr. 8, 2008	4 p.m.
Softball	Apr. 1, 2008	6 p.m.	Women's Tennis
Mar. 28, 2008	7 p.m.	Women's Tennis	Apr. 14, 2008
6 p.m.	Softball	Apr. 9, 2008	3:30 p.m.
Softball	Apr. 2, 2008	3 p.m.	Men's Tennis
Mar. 28, 2008	5 p.m.	Women's Tennis	Apr. 14, 2008
8 p.m.	Softball	Apr. 10, 2008	3:30 p.m.
Men's Tennis	Apr. 2, 2008	3 p.m.	Baseball
Mar. 29, 2008	7 p.m.	Baseball	Apr. 18, 2008
10 a.m.	Men's Tennis	Apr. 11, 2008	7 p.m.
Women's Tennis	Apr. 3, 2008	7 p.m.	Baseball
Mar. 29, 2008	3 p.m.	Baseball	Apr. 19, 2008
1 p.m.	Women's Tennis	Apr. 12, 2008	1 p.m.
Softball	Apr. 7, 2008	1 p.m.	

Tennis sends it over the net

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

Photograph by Mike Carlson
Junior Lara King, the oldest returning player, reached for a ball during a match.

Women's tennis was one of the few teams forced to spend their spring breaks practicing and competing. The team is currently 6 and 5 overall and 1 and 2 in the conference.

The team has gone on two separate winning streaks, both three wins a piece since the season started, so they know what they are doing, but the competition this year is better than they anticipated. Like their record shows, they are one step above a losing season, but that could quickly change with their future matches, especially against University of Tampa, Rollins College, and Eckerd College. The pressure is on to show the surrounding schools the Lions have the power behind the rackets.

Some of the main competitors on the teams are sophomore Lina Benkirane, junior Lara King, sophomore Asmaa Tazi, sophomore Taylor Cleaves, and freshman Veronica Queen. Both Queen and Tazi took over the singles competition for the Lions when they went up against Puerto-Rico Rio-Piedras' Suzette Melendez.

Whether it is doubles or singles, the Lions are very good competitors. For those students who stop at the baseball field instead of continuing down to the new tennis courts on the outskirts of campus, the Lady Lions have a lot of power behind their backhand and maybe too much in the forehand.In a later nonconference match against the University of Tampa, the Lions hit the Spartan talent over the net and back in their face.

The Spartans had limited control during the double matches, which the Lions won all three thanks to the lovely talented combination of sophomores Taylor Cleaves and Shaena Keefe. But when it came down to singles, the Lions Benkirane and Cleaves were victorious in their matches to complete the sweep and send the Spartans home with a loss.

While the season is far from over and the Lions can't depend on just certain individuals, the team has worked hard to get to this point and they are planning on working harder in order to place the Lions tennis team on every other competitor's schedule as a force beyond their own talent.The Lions hit the court, and hopefully not the net, on March 29 at 1 p.m. against Arkansas.

Lions fall one game short

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

The Lions' season ends on an up note even though they ended with a heart breaking loss. While the men's team did not go all the way, they made it one step further than they did last year. And while the team is losing two valuable players, it's very probable that if the team continues down this road of victory that they will conquer more battles in next year's tournament.

"I expected nothing less than excellence from myself and my teammates throughout the game, and I can't wait to get back on the court for the next contest," said junior Kyle Rowland.

Photograph by Caitlin Craft
The Lions have huddled for the last time this season, but with the hope that next season they can hold on one huddle longer.

After a victory in the quarter finals against Eckerd College, the Lions were set to take on the number three seed, University of Tampa. The semifinal took place right at the beginning of spring break, so a little spring fever was on the Lions' side as they took to the hardwood to face the Spartans.

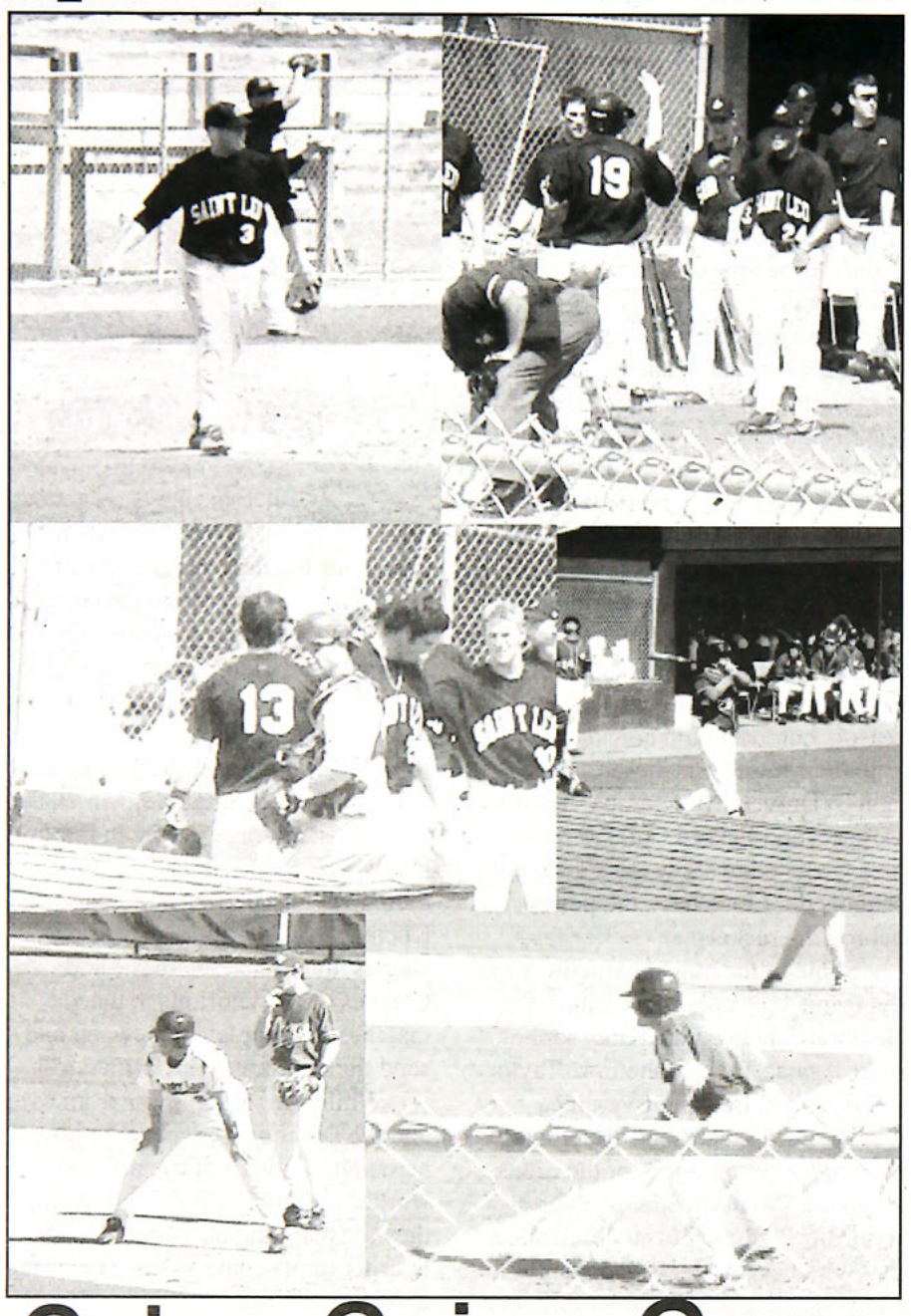
"We played very good at Eckerd, and we can definitely win the tournament if we play with confidence," said sophomore Jordan Prais.

Unfortunately, luck was not on the Lions' side, and they took a hard loss of 75-55.

Even though one of the Lions' stars, Prais, led the game with 10 points and nine rebounds, and junior Eric Sharper took down a game-high of 11 rebounds, the Lions were unable to end the half above Tampa. They Lions ended the half down by one, and Tampa's scoring run did not stop there.

The second half of the game the Lions saw their championship future slipping away from them. Despite the team's high hopes after last game's victory and the intensity of the situation, head coach Mike Madagan and his high flying team saw the end of their season end when they couldn't come within eight points of the lead in the second half. Tampa led within 21 points at one point during the second half before closing the final score to a 20 point deficit and the advancement to Sunday's championship game.

Sports



Going, Going, Gone

In Saint Leo's last game against Eckerd College in a three game series, the Lions creamed numerous balls over the fence and out of the park.

Eight home runs were hit during this game. The above pictures include freshman Anthony Santa, who hit two, his first of the season, and Brandin Daniel who also smashed two out of the park.

The other hard hiters for the day were junior Braulio Pardo, top right, junior T.J. Alonzo, middle left, junior Jonathan Duncan, bottom left, and senior Yunior Trabares, bottom right, who was named player of the week.

Athletes take season through spring break

CAITLIN CRAFT
Lions' Pride Sports Editor

Depending on the sport spring break isn't exactly the Cabo, Cancun trip that all students experience. There were a number of teams who were forced to remain close to campus for games and some traveling. Baseball, softball, lacrosse, women's golf, and women's tennis all stayed in Leoland while others hit the beach and tried to catch a tan. Instead, these dedicated athletes hit baseballs, softballs, tennis balls, and golf balls, and caught a lacrosse ball and a farmer's tan.

There are mixed results as to how the athletes feel about giving up spring break for the sport they love. Brendan Cahill, a sophomore lacrosse player, has come to the conclusion that athletes are not like regular students, and that has its pros and its cons.

"As an athlete you are not the typical college student. Sure you would love to experience Cancun, but you get to experience something that most kids in college don't, to play your sport. There have to be some sacrifices," said Cahill.

However, while Cahill is willing to look on the positive side, there are others who wish they could have a break from everything as well. For instance, Meghan Costello, a junior on the women's golf team would have liked to have had a Cancun experience. While she feels she did miss out on some things, the team did have a few days off, but a cruise was on her wish list.

"Since spring break started on Friday, I feel I did miss out on some things; however, it wasn't too bad since we did have a few days off. I would much rather have been by the beach or on a cruise. I would say it is just a small sacrifice because I only missed a few days of break, but I usually am able to miss a few days of school too," said Costello.

And, that's just another perk these out of the ordinary students get to experience while they play the sport they love.

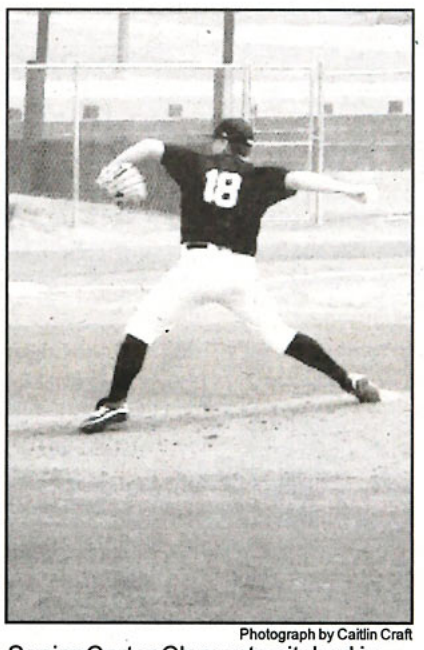
Baseball begins playing conference competition

BY AMANDA CAIN
Lions' Pride Staff Writer

Since their opening weekend in February, the Saint Leo University baseball team is off to a great start with a record of 21 and 8 as of the end of spring break week.

Following the three game series against Florida Technical University (20-7-1), the team hit the road to face Eckerd College (10-17) in a 10 inning thriller. After giving up an eight run lead against the Tritons, the Lions pulled ahead in the 10th inning to win 12-8. Stand out players that game included junior left fielder T.J. Alonzo (Tampa, Fla.) who went 2-for-3 with a two-run home run, two RBI and three runs scored, and senior closer Matt Smith (Dade City, Fla.) who threw two and one-third innings of no-hit baseball.

The team traveled to Miami the following weekend where they walked away with a 4-7 loss against Lynn University (19-8) and a 9-5 win over Nova Southeastern University (15-10) returning that Saturday night only to play West Florida (12-16) the next day, a Sunday afternoon; the Lions capped off the weekend with a 24-12 win. Shortstop junior Bobby Munoz (Tampa, Fla.) excelled that day with a perfect 5-5 hit spectacle recording three RBI, four runs scored, one homerun, a double, and three singles for the afternoon.



Photograph by Caitlin Craft
Senior Carter Clements pitched in the last game of the series for the Lions.

After a week's rest, the team continued their winning streak in the three game series against Palm Beach Atlantic University (7-17). In the first game on Friday night, left handed senior pitcher Ryan Clark (Tampa, Fla.) struck out 11, allowing only one hit in six innings. Senior first baseman Brandin Daniel (Punta Gorda, Fla.) hit 2-for-3 with three RBI, one home run, and one run scored. The team's offensive play helped give them an 8-2 win over PBA. The next day's double header also proved successful with the Lions winning 19-2 in the first game and 4-3 in the very close second game. While game one could be considered a clean sweep for Saint Leo, game two became a true test for the home team with the win coming from a right field drive hit by junior Dale Slimick (Sarasota, Fla.) to score the leading run.

"The third game against Palm Beach Atlantic stands out in my mind as one of the most memorable games of the season thus far. That game really displayed our character in the fight to come from behind in the 7th to score 2 runs and win," recalls baseball Head Coach Ricky Ware.

Traveling again to Eckerd College, the Lion's pushed their six-game winning streak with a 12-6 victory. Senior pitcher Shane Buriff (Lutz, Fla.) led the team on the mound, pitching a strong 4.2 innings. The next evening, the home team defeated Bentley College (4-10) 9-8. Sophomore J.C. Suarez (Tampa, Fla.) had a big day at bat as he finished with 2-for-4 with and RBI and three runs scored; his standout hit coming in the fifth inning when he hit a drive down the left field line scoring one run and making it to third base. Freshman Matthew Smith (Land O'Lakes, Fla.) made his first career start on the mound, throwing his first career victory.

The subsequent weekend, the Lion's traveled to Fort Myers to play in the Gene Cusic Classic. The team fell 9-7 in game one against Concordia Saint Paul (6-4) but won 11-6 in their second game. Junior Aaron McLamar (Hudson, Fla.) had a grand slam in the second game to propel the Lion's to a win. Senior pitcher Rodney Miller (Binghamton, N.Y.) picked up a win that afternoon going 5.2 innings while allowing just 5 runs, 3 earned, on six hits. Although the next day the team lost 3-1 to Wheeling Jesuit University (4-11), junior Klye Hobbs (Dade City, Fla.) went 3-for-4 at the plate.

Another week of rest for the team prepared them for the four game seies they played against two Northern teams. That Saturday, the home team split a double header with Saint Anselm College (5-8). The Lion's lost 8-7 in the fist game but pulled ahead 13-0 in the second. Junior second baseman Jonathan Duncan (Starke, Fla.) earned four RBI that afternoon, extending his hitting streak to 11 games. Junior catcher Braulio Pardo (Land O'Lakes, Fla.) also stretched his hitting streak to 10 games that day. The next day, Saint Leo overpowered Merrimack College (1-6) in the weekend's second double header. Senior Yunior Tabares (Tampa, Fla.) went a combined 3-for-7 in both games with a total of six RBI, two doubles, a home run, and four runs scored. Carter Clements (Sr., Eustis, Fla.) threw 7 innings of shutout ball, allowing only five hits and striking out seven for a win in game one.

All-in-all Head Coach Ware believes the team has a good start to the season but there area always areas that can be improved on.

"One thing I'm most proud of is the fact that we've had three players named Sunshine State Conference Player of the Week: Bobby Munoz, Yunior Tabares, and Ryan Clark," said Coach Ware.

With more than 20 games still left in the regular season, Coach Ware believes the team is prepared and ready to begin playing their first conference games during spring break.